

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

C/W/369

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COUNCIL
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PROTOCOL SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE GENEVA (1979) PROTOCOL TO THE GATT

Extension of Time-Limit for the Acceptance of the Protocol

Draft Decision

The final date for acceptance stipulated in the Geneva (1979) Protocol and in the Supplementary Protocol was 30 June 1980. The Council on 18 June 1980 decided to extend the time-limit for the acceptance of the Protocols until 31 December 1980 (C/M/141); on 24 November 1980 the CONTRACTING PARTIES decided to extend the time-limit until 30 June 1981 (L/5078), and the Council, on 11 June 1981, decided to further extend the time-limit until 31 December 1981 (L/5159).

It has now become clear that some contracting parties which have schedules annexed to the Supplementary Protocol will not be able to accept this Protocol before the expiry of the extended time-limit. The following draft decision extending further the time-limit for acceptance of the Supplementary Protocol is therefore proposed for consideration by the Council:

"Considering that the Protocol Supplementary to the Geneva (1979) Protocol to the GATT has not yet been accepted by all contracting parties which have schedules of tariff concessions annexed to this Protocol,

"Considering the established GATT practice according to which the CONTRACTING PARTIES or the Council, under such circumstances have authority to decide on an extension of the time-limit for the acceptance of such Protocol and other instruments of a similar nature in case of compelling need,

"Recalling that the Council on 11 June 1981 decided to extend the time-limit for the acceptance of the Protocol until 31 December 1981,

"The CONTRACTING PARTIES

"Decide to extend further the time-limit of the said Protocol until 30 June 1982, and

"Urge the contracting parties which have schedules annexed to the said Protocol and have not yet accepted it to make every effort to do so in the near future."